PATENT

NITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Lee et al.

Application No:

09/824,625 - 8907

Filing Date:

April 2, 2001

Entitled:

METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR

THERMALLY AFFECTING TISSUES

Atty. Docket No:

22727-66

Examiner:

Group Art Unit: 3762

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January 9, 2002
Date of Signature and Mail Deposit

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for **Patents** Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examining the above-referenced patent application, please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please add new claims 44 and 45:

44. (New) A method of thermally affecting cranial tissue of a patient, comprising the steps of: positioning an implantable element in thermal communication with the cranial tissue;

circulating thermally transmissive fluid through the implantable element; and allowing the element to thermally affect the tissue to a predetermined temperature for a predetermined time.